AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-4, 6, 8, and 11 and add new claims 15 and 16, as shown in the following listing of claims, which will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Claims 1-8 and 11 were previously elected with traverse, and claims 9-10 were rejoined by the Examiner.

Listing of claims:

1 (currently amended). An isolated DNA containing uncoupling protein-2 (UCP-2) promoter region ~~containing~~comprising a regulator sequence, wherein the regulator sequence is ~~at least any one of the sequences~~ a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

a. a peroxisome proliferator response element (PPRE) sequence ~~containing peroxisome proliferator response element (PPRE) presented by position~~ comprising nucleotides 284 to 296 of SEQ ID NO: 1;

b. a CCAAT/enhancer binding protein (C/EBP) sequence ~~containing CCAAT/enhancer binding protein (C/EBP) biding sequence presented by position~~ comprising nucleotides 1316 to 1320 of SEQ ID NO: 1, ~~position~~ nucleotides 1364 to 1368 of SEQ ID NO: 1, or ~~position~~ nucleotides 1698 to 1692 of SEQ ID NO: 1;

c. a glucocorticoid response element (GRE) sequence ~~containing glucocorticoid response element (GRE) presented by position~~ comprising nucleotides 753 to 758 of SEQ ID NO: 1, ~~position~~ nucleotides 1023 to 1030 of SEQ ID NO: 1, or ~~position~~ nucleotides 1450 to 1455 of SEQ ID NO: 1; and

d. a MyoD-binding sequence ~~containing MyoD presented by position~~ comprising nucleotides 1428 to 1437 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

2 (currently amended). The isolated DNA described in claim 1 wherein the regulator sequence is a ~~sequence containing~~ peroxisome proliferator response element (PPRE).

3 (currently amended). The isolated DNA described in claim 1 wherein the regulator sequence is a ~~sequence containing~~ CCAAT/enhancer binding protein (C/EBP) binding sequence.

4 (currently amended). The isolated DNA described in claim 1 wherein the promoter region is a base sequence ~~presented by position~~ comprising nucleotides 1 to 2270 of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a ~~base sequence containing a part of the said base sequence~~fragment thereof.

5 (previously presented). A recombinant vector containing the DNA described in claim 1.

6 (currently amended). The recombinant vector described in claim 5 ~~containing,~~ which comprises a DNA containing a structural gene under control of the UCP-2 promoter region containing [[a]] the regulator sequence.

7 (previously presented). A transformant transformed by the recombinant vector described in claim 5.

8 (currently amended). A method for screening for a compound or its salt that promotes or inhibits a UCP-2 promoter activity characterized by measuring and comparing polypeptide expression between the transformant ~~desribed in~~ of claim 7 contacted to a first sample of the ~~test compounds~~compound or its salt and ~~the~~ a control transformant, ~~lacking the~~ with no UDP-2 promoter, contacted to ~~the~~ a second sample of the ~~test compounds~~compound or its salt.

9. – 10. (canceled)

11 (currently amended). A kit for screening for a compound or its salt that promotes or inhibits UCP-2 promoter activity, which ~~consists of~~ comprises:

a. a cell culture medium~~,~~ comprising Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) supplemented with fetal calf serum (FCS);

b. ~~-~~a cell differentiation medium~~,~~ comprising Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) supplemented with rabbit serum;

c. ~~-~~a plasmid for measurement of UCP-2 promoter activity~~,~~ comprising:

i. a pGL3-basic plasmid DNA carrying the UCP-2 promoter sequence; and

ii. a structural gene inserted downstream of the UCP-2 promoter;

d. a host cell line comprising an MG-63 cell line; and

e. a ~~test compounds~~compound or its salt.

12. – 14. (canceled)

15 (new). The kit of claim 11, wherein:

a. the DMEM of the cell culture medium is supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum (FCS); and

b. the DMEM of the cell differentiation medium is supplemented with 5% rabbit serum.

16 (new). The kit of claim 11, wherein the UCP-2 promoter sequence comprises a regulator sequence, wherein the regulator sequence is a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

a. a peroxisome proliferator response element (PPRE) sequence comprising nucleotides 284 to 296 of SEQ ID NO: 1;

b. a CCAAT/enhancer binding protein (C/EBP) sequence comprising nucleotides 1316 to 1320 of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 1364 to 1368 of SEQ ID NO: 1, or nucleotides 1698 to 1692 of SEQ ID NO: 1;

c. a glucocorticoid response element (GRE) sequence comprising nucleotides 753 to 758 of SEQ ID NO: 1, nucleotides 1023 to 1030 of SEQ ID NO: 1, or nucleotides 1450 to 1455 of SEQ ID NO: 1; and

d. a MyoD-binding sequence comprising nucleotides 1428 to 1437 of SEQ ID NO: 1.